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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/807,424	03/24/2004	Shougo Sato	118202	3539
25944	7590	12/20/2005	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			NGO, HOANG X	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2852	

DATE MAILED: 12/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/807,424	SATO, SHOUGO	
	Examiner Hoang Ngo	Art Unit 2852	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 24 March 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/20/05</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ito et al.

Ito et al disclose a process cartridge comprising a case 30 (Fig. 1); an image carrier 1 provided at the case wherein the surface of the image carrier being divided into four sections by two perpendicular lines perpendicular to a center of the image carrier (the lines are inherently shown since the image carrier having a round circle shape); a charger 6 disposed within the case along the surface of the image carrier (Fig. 1) that uniformly charges the surface of the image carrier (Col. 7, lines 15-20); a developing member 3 disposed within the case along the surface of the image carrier to supply developing agent to the image carrier (Fig. 1, Col. 5, lines 10-30) and wherein the charger is located at a first section and the developing member is located at a second section that is opposite to the first section (Fig 1 shows the charger 6 to the left of the image carrier 1 (first section) and the developing member to the right of the image carrier 1 (second section)).

Ito et al further disclose a transfer member 4 that is disposed on the case along the surface of the image carrier to transfer the toner image from the surface of the image carrier to a recording medium P and the transfer member is located at a third

section between the first section and the second section (Fig. 1 shows the transfer member 4 on the bottom of image carrier 1 (third section)); an opening disposed at a fourth section opposite from the third section (see the opening with the laser beam L, Fig. 1); the charger is located closer to the transfer member than the developing member (see Fig. 1); the image carrier and the developing are located along a straight line (Fig. 1); an exposing unit L disposed along the surface of the image carrier to emits a light beam L onto the surface of the image carrier and is located at the fourth section and is above the process cartridge (Fig. 1); the light path L of the exposing unit is place with a plane parallel to the straight line and passes through the opening (Fig. 1); a supplying device (i.e. sheet feeder, Col. 5, line 34) for supplying the recording medium having a feed path parallel to the straight line (Fig. 1); a discharge device 5 for discharging the recording medium; the charger is located closer to the transfer member than the developing member (Fig. 1); the charger, the image carrier and the developing member are located along a straight line (Fig. 1).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 10/20/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant argues that Ito's fur brush 6 does not correspond to the charger of claims 1, 6, and 24 because "the fur brush 6 does not uniformly charge the surface of the photosensitive member 1" and because "Ito's fur brush 6 only charges residual toner particles on the surface of photosensitive member 1 (col. 7, lines 19-28)". The examiner respectfully disagrees with the applicant since the function of the fur brush is to charge the residual toner particles on the surface of the photosensitive

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member 1, in doing so it put out a combination of AC voltage and a DC voltage of 700 V) (col. 12, lines 28-30), and since the photosensitive member 1 having a charge injection layer on its surface layer comprising of electrically conductive material (col. 14, lines 3-5), the fur brush 6 would also charge the surface layer of the photosensitive member at the same time.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoang Ngo whose telephone number is (571) 272-2138. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:00am - 2:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Arthur Grimley can be reached on (571) 272-2136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Hoang Ngo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2852

HN

December 19, 2005